

Virginia Emergency Management Association (VEMA)

2013 Coordinator's Briefing

**Michelle Tilley Oblinsky
2nd Vice President**



2013/2014 VEMA Officers

- Sara Ruch – President
 - City of Hampton, VA
- Mark Penn – 1st Vice President
 - City of Alexandria, VA
- Michelle Oblinsky – 2nd Vice President
 - Chesterfield County, VA
- Carrie Speranza – Secretary
 - EM Consultant, Northern VA
- Walter English – Treasurer
 - City of Fairfax, VA

2013/2014 VEMA Activities

- Formalize processes
- Offer more opportunities for member participation
- Committee work
 - Bylaws & Constitution
 - Legislative
 - Scholarship
 - Strategic Plan
 - Technology

Institutes of Higher Education Caucus

Accomplished

- Elected New Secretary
- Initial By-Laws Approved
- \$4,000 Budget
- Webinar Capability Purchase for Association

Upcoming

- Webinar Trends Series
- Revised By-Laws
- Marketing Material

Mark Your Calendars!

- 2014 Virginia Emergency Management Symposium
 - March 19- 21, 2014
 - Hampton Roads Convention Center
- Informational Sessions, Networking
 - Call for papers
- VEMA Awards Dinner and Silent Auction

VEMA Certification Program

**Certification and
Mentoring
Program**



**Virginia Emergency
Management Association**

www.vemaweb.org/content/certification

Certification Basics

- Joint effort of VDEM and VEMA
- Increase Awareness of, Maintain Professional Standards in and Certify Achievement for the Emergency Management Profession in Virginia

Certification Basics

- Certification is EARNED, not AWARDED
- Indicates
 - Experience
 - Hard work
 - Continuing education
 - Dedication (professionalism)

Certification Basics

- Available to EMs in Virginia, as well as EMs in surrounding states
- DO NOT have to be VEMA members
 - Members receive Application Discount

Certification Highlights

- FOUR Levels of Certification
 - Professional Emergency Manager - 35
 - Associate Emergency Manager – 12
 - Emergency Management Assistant - 24
 - Emergency Management Volunteer – 2

** As of September 1, 2013

Resources

- WEBSITE!!
 - Certification Matrix
 - Application Guidelines document
- Mentoring Program
- Email me
 - CertificationChair@vemaweb.org

For More VEMA Info

www.vemaweb.org